Psychology 1130: General Psychology
Section 1 & 2 (Pink & Blue)
Fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. Corinne (Cori) Enright
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Web Page: http://people.uwplatt.edu/~enrightc/
Office Hours M thru F 7: am to 8:40. MWF 10:00 to 10:40. TWTH noon to 1:20. or by appointment.

Class Meetings (MWF):  Pink  Section 1    8:00 – 8:50 am in Doudna 149
                            Blue  Section 2  9:00 – 9:50 am in Doudna 149


Course Description
Psychology is the study of human behavior and cognition. This course offers only a brief introduction to some of the theories and supporting research. We begin by defining what psychology is and what it is not. Next, research methods are discussed. The remainder of the course will give a sampling of research, theories and findings relevant to some of the core areas of psychology (e.g., Memory, Neuroscience, Learning, Cognition, Development, Personality, Health Psychology, Social Behavior, Mental Disorders, and Treatments).

This course is approved for use as a Social Science General Education requirement. The purpose of studying the social sciences is to develop an understanding of social systems, the dynamics of individual and group behavior and the forces that operate in social relationships.  (p.33, 2014-2016 UW-Platteville Undergraduate Catalog)

Course Objectives
The student should:

• gain an understanding of the basic principles and theories of psychology;
• become acquainted with the methods used to scientifically study human behavior;
• learn to critically evaluate psychological information as presented in both the popular press and in professional journals.

Course Requirements

Exams: There will be three in-class, closed book exams and one semi-cumulative final exam. In total, these exams are worth 73% of your final grade. Your three highest exam scores will each count as 21% of your final grade. Your lowest exam score will count as 10%. Exams will include multiple choice questions, definitions, and/or short answer questions. Make-up exams will be allowed only in the case of documented illness or an excused absence. Excused absences must be arranged with the instructor at least 48 hours before the scheduled exam. In most cases, if an excused absence is granted, the student will be required to write the make-up exam prior to the class scheduled exam time. In cases of documented illness, you must inform the instructor as soon as possible (preferably before missing the exam -- messages may be left on my voice mail or email) and the make-up exam must be written as soon as possible. If you miss an exam without documentation of illness or an excused absence, you will not be eligible to write a make-up and will receive a grade of zero for the missed exam.

Assignments: You will be required to complete three assignments. In total, these assignments are worth 12% of your final grade. Although the tasks will vary, each assignment will require a critical or practical analysis of a specific topic. Students are required to use the concepts and information presented in the text, and in class, as well as assigned materials from journals and other relevant sources to complete these assignments. All four assignments are mini-papers dealing with practical applications of course materials to real-life situations. These assignments are "take-home" and each requires a 2 to 3 page report (varies with assignment). Each is worth 4% of your final grade. Written instructions for these assignments will be provided in class approximately one week prior to the dates they are due. For all assignments, due dates are non-negotiable. Late assignments will not be accepted. All assignments must be typewritten (unless otherwise stated) and will be graded on both content and writing style.
**Homework and In-class Concept Comprehension Checks and Participation:** At various times during the course, you will be tested for your comprehension of the concepts we are discussing or demonstrating. These assignments will be graded according to a pass/fail criterion. When they are take-home assignments they will be due at the beginning of the following class period. If you are not present for class, fail to hand in the assignment, or are unable to demonstrate comprehension of the tested concept, you will receive a zero for the assignment. No make-ups or re-dos will be allowed. In total, these assignments will be worth 12% of your final grade.

**Research Experience:** All students are required to fulfill the research experience component of this course either by participating for approximately one and a half hours in research conducted by the Psychology Department (option 1) or submitting a comprehensive review of three appropriate journal articles (option 2). Information about when the research opportunities will be available will be handed out in class and posted on the course webpage. If you choose option 2, you must submit your papers on or before the last day of class for your section of General Psychology to avoid receiving an incomplete on your transcript. Detailed instructions for satisfying this component of the course will be provided in a separate handout. Completion of the research experience is required in all sections of Psychology 1130. **Failure to comply will result in a grade of incomplete, until satisfied.** When satisfied, completion of the research credits counts as 3% toward your final grade.

**Bonus Point Opportunities:** At various times during the term activities will be announced for which you may receive bonus points. These generally involve attendance at relevant talks or activities taking place on campus or in the Platteville community. Bonus point opportunities vary from semester to semester and will be announced as they come up. Bonus points (2 points) can also be earned by completing a journal article review (in addition to the research experience component). Only one journal article review will be accepted for bonus points. The requirements for earning this type of bonus points are the same as for Option 2 of the research experience component. **A student may earn up to a total of 5% in bonus points** that will be added to their final grade. Bonus points cannot be used to raise a grade from a D to a C. A minimum grade of C must be obtained before bonus points will be applied to your final grade.

**Attendance Policy**
Attendance is voluntary; however, it is in your best interest to attend regularly.

- If you should miss class(es), it is your responsibility to make up the material covered. The Professor will not provide you with an individual review of the material missed. She will answer specific questions about missed material AFTER you have reviewed the text and notes during office hours.
- Materials covered in class make up a major portion of the exam content.
- Credit for in-class assignments can only be earned if you attend the class in which the assignment is given and collected.
- Announcements regarding Bonus Points Opportunities will be made during class and in some cases only those students who are present will be allowed to sign up to earn the extra credit.

**Grading**
Final grades will be calculated as a composite of earned scores on the four exams (73%) and the three assignments (12%), concept checks, homework and class participation (12%), research participation (3%) and bonus points (up to 5%). The grading scale is as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>55</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Below 55</td>
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**Course Web Page**
A Web Page has been provided. This site can be accessed from the Instructor's Webpage at [http://people.uwplatt.edu/~enright/GenPsychIndexSp16.htm](http://people.uwplatt.edu/~enright/GenPsychIndexSp16.htm). The site provides the current course outline which included links to the course PowerPoint© notes, links to Lists of Key Terms, Concepts and Definitions (i.e., study guides), and answers to concept checks. In addition the website may include other resources that may be of interest and that may help you to comprehend the material we are covering. These may include demonstrations, reviews and additional information on selected topics. **D2L is not used for this class.** If you wish to know your grade, your grade to date will be provided to you on tests and assignments as they are returned to you **during class period.**

**Accommodation Due to a Disability**
Any student who may need an accommodation due to a disability, please **make an appointment** to see me during my office hours. A VISA from Services for Students with Disabilities authorizing your accommodations may be required.

**Military/Veterans**
Veterans and Reserve duty military personnel with special circumstances are welcome and encouraged to communicate these in advance if possible, to the instructor.

**Electronic Devices**
- Cell phones **must** be turned off during class.
- Use of personal computing devices is not permitted in this class. This includes laptops, cell phones, tablets, personal digital assistants (PDAs) and all other computerized devices. **Text messaging is not allowed during class.** If you text or use a PDA during class, you will be dismissed for the class period.

**Communication by Email**
- Always put your **course color** (PINK or BLUE) on the subject line of email sent to me.
- **I will not respond** to emails that are not written in a respectful and grammatical style. Communication by email does not mean that all considerations of respect and etiquette can be ignored. If you cannot take the time to write appropriately, I will not take the time to read it!
- **Do not** email me to tell me you will be missing class. **ALL** students will **ALWAYS** be responsible for the material covered in class. **There are no excused absences from classes.**
- If you miss class, **do not** email me to ask me what you missed. The course schedule and notes will be posted on the website. If you have specific questions about the material you missed, **please come by** during office hours. If the class you miss is a scheduled exam, be sure to follow the instructions listed under course requirements.

**Academic Support Programs** offers free services to UW-Platteville students to help them succeed. Qualified student tutors in Tutoring Services and the Writing Center help students become more confident and effective learners and writers in a relaxed, peer-to-peer environment.

An Academic Coach gives students a one-on-one connection with a campus professional and the opportunity to develop skills that will help them succeed in college, such as using a planner, studying effectively, or managing test anxiety. An Academic Coach can also refer students to other campus resources suited to their needs. Please visit [https://www.uwplatt.edu/academic-support](https://www.uwplatt.edu/academic-support) to learn more about these services. You can also call (608) 342-1081 or visit 3rd floor Brigham Hall for more information.